

formed us at that time that he was legally advised that he could not take over the Colorado coal mines and operate them under governmental supervision and thus force a settlement of the strike in accord with the peace plan he had submitted. The president expressed deep regret that the operators had seen fit to disregard his wishes in the matter and informed us he would do everything he could legally to bring about a settlement of the controversy."

of President Wilson on December 1.

After quoting the communication announcing the appointment of a federal mediation commission to deal with future controversies between operators and employees in the Colorado coal fields, the report says:

"This is the last word from the president, and in submitting this final proposition he emphasizes the thought that both parties may see it not merely to their own interests, but also duty which they owe to the community which they serve and the nation itself to make use of this instrument of peace and render strife of the kind which has threatened the order and prosperity of the great state of Colorado a thing of the past. In view of this urgent request, coming as it does from the chief executive of the nation, we deem it the part of wisdom to accept his suggestion and terminate the strike. In our opinion, to wage the strike further would not mean additional gain to our members. We trust that this commission appointed by the president will meet with success and that all the operators of the state will come under its jurisdiction. The men who compose this commission are of national reputation and are citizens of high character and standing in their respective communities. If the operators reject the good offices of this commission, appointed in good faith by the president of the United States, upon their shoulders will rest the responsibility of any future trouble in the mining fields of Colorado. In taking this position, and in terminating this strike, which has lasted for a period of almost five years in the northern coal fields and for more than fourteen months in the southern coal fields of Colorado, we believe we are doing the best thing possible for the men on strike who have suffered so long in order that justice might be done.

"We have spent an enormous amount of money in waging this struggle for justice and fair play in the mining fields of Colorado, but have felt that it was spent in an noble cause as was ever given men to espouse. We are not unmindful of the heroic struggle waged by the miners of Colorado since the strike began. It is with feelings of pain and sorrow that we recall the massacre of our men, women and children at Ludlow. The sacrifices made, the privations endured are without parallel in the history of labor struggles in America. Only those who have suffered grievous wrongs could endure such a prolonged conflict. All lovers of liberty and believers in fair play between man and man must admire the heroic struggle of the Colorado miners against the great wealth and influence of Rockefeller and his associates.

"We believe that our people have not died in vain and that the battle they have waged against such tremendous odds has aroused the conscience of the nation and that out of the martyrdom of our people will come the dawn of a better day for the suffering of our miners and their families in the coal fields of Colorado. May not this terrible conflict teach the citizens of Colorado and the nation that government by gunmen must cease?"

"We express the hope that the president of the United States and the people of this nation will see to it that the constitutional government

is enjoyed by the citizens in the coal fields of Colorado. We have made every effort for peace since the beginning of this conflict. We have repeatedly sought a conference with the mine owners only to be denied a hearing. We have repeatedly offered arbitration, only to be ridiculed, and in the end thirty-five of our men, women and children were murdered before the people of the nation came to understand that the coal strike in Colorado was not a local or state issue, but a national issue of vital importance, involving civil as well as industrial rights.

"We feel that the president has recognized the truth of the claims we have made and that with the termination of this strike by the appointment of a permanent presidential commission of fair minded men, we shall find that the old-time oppression and tyranny will be no more and that public opinion will compel the large operators of Colorado to deal justly with our people. And even though we now feel called upon to terminate this strike, due to untoward circumstances which surround us, we wish to say that our support and influence will ever be given freely to the mine workers of Colorado."

"We recognize no surrender and shall continue to propagate the principles of our humanitarian movement throughout the coal fields of Colorado. We advise all our men to seek their former places in the mines, and to those who are refused employment we shall render assistance to the best of our ability, and shall provide every legal protection to those of our members who are being persecuted by the hooligans of organized greed."

In conclusion the report says that the sub-committee of the international executive board now attending the district convention has been given discretionary power to meet the exigencies of any situation concerning the continuation of the strike that may arise."

The History of the Strike.

Denver, Dec. 8.—In duration, sacrifice of life, property and in monetary loss to the state, miners' union, coal operators, the miners, railroads and private industries, the Colorado coal strike has been one of the greatest in the history of American mining.

The strike in the northern coal fields, of which the state-wide strike is a continuation, was called on April 1, 1910. The state-wide strike was called on September 22, 1913, and virtually paralysed the industry of Colorado, threw the commonwealth into turmoil, and finally led to the calling out of the state militia and the importation of federal troops, successively, into the strike territory to preserve order.

The toll of approximately \$13,000,000 expended during the strike is shared by miners, operators, the union, railroads, state and federal governments, as well as private industries. According to union officials more than \$12,000,000 has been paid in strike benefits alone. Loss of wages to miners is estimated at over \$1,000,000.

The strike has been characterized by an unusually large number of acts of violence, and at least sixty-six persons are known to have been killed and about fifty injured as a result of disorders incident to the labor war. The battle between striking miners, mine guards and militiamen at Ludlow on April 20, which ended in the destruction of the tent colony, was responsible for the deaths of twelve children and two women whose bodies were found in a pit in the ruins of the site. Subsequent warfare, which included attacks upon various mining camps in Los Angeles, Huachuca, Fremont and other counties, marked the culmination of strike outbreaks. The arrival of federal troops on April 26, 1914, restored peace.

State troops were sent into the strike zone October 29, 1913, when local authorities declared they were unable to preserve order. With the exception of one company station at Ludlow and another at Walsenburg, the state troops were withdrawn on April 18 of the following year. The next week, however, they were returned, remaining until the arrival of the federal troops on April 26, 1914, restored peace.

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The witness instanced the testimony of several witnesses for the operators before the congressional committee who had perjured themselves and so admitted on the stand.

Mr. Brewster, on the stand, had alleged perjury by union witnesses before the congressional strike investigation.

"Was Mr. Welborn telling the truth on page 520 of the record when he said, in effect, that one-third of his men were at work, or in his belief when he said seventy-five per cent of his men were at work?" asked Brewster.

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Mr. Brewster declared that Bishop Charles S. Cimber of the Episcopal diocese of Colorado, had circulated false statements upon the strike, although warned that the statements were based on false information.

A special session of the state legislature was called in May last to consider the strike, particularly to provide funds for meeting expenses incurred by the state troops on strike duty. A measure providing for the issuance of strike bonds in the sum of a million dollars was passed. Some of these bonds have been disposed of.

The original demands of the strikers included recognition of the union, a 10 per cent advance in wages, an eight-hour day, miners to choose their checkweighmen, pay for "turn-over and dead" work, the right to trade at stores other than those of the company, and a strict enforcement of the state mining laws. The demand for recognition of the union was recently waived, in accordance with a suggestion of President Wilson, in a proposed three-year truce, which was accepted by the miners but rejected by the operators.

The conduct of the strike during the past sixteen months has been under the personal direction of Frank J. Hayes, international vice president of the United Miners Workers of America; John R. Lawson, international executive board member, and John McLean, president of District 15 of the miners' union. J. F. Welborn, president of the Colorado Fuel & Iron company, and J. C. Osgood, chairman of the board of directors of the Vic-

tor-American company, have acted as representatives of the operators.

These three companies produce more than 80 per cent of the Colorado coal output. About twelve of the smaller operators signed contracts with the union.

Welborn Divulges Writer's Name.

Denver, Colo., Dec. 8.—Ivy L. Lee, executive assistant of the Pennsylvania railroad, was the author of "facts in Colorado's struggle for industrial freedom," according to the statement of J. F. Welborn, president of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company, at today's session of the industrial relation's commission's investigation of the coal miners' strike.

Mr. Welborn, who previously had protested again revealing the name of the author of the pamphlet issued by the Colorado Fuel and Iron company, read a telegram from Lee, releasing the company from its pledge to keep his identity secret. The telegram gave the information that Lee had been employed by John D. Rockefeller, Jr. In his telegram Lee briefly outlined that Mr. Rockefeller, Jr., had been impressed with what he alleged was inaccurate information of the inaccuracies of published statements concerning the strike and had asked him to prepare a statement of the facts. He deplored the undue mystery that had been made of his identity. Mr. Rockefeller had nothing to do with the preparation of the matter used. Mr. Lee congratulated Mr. Welborn on what he said were the few inaccuracies in minor details that had been shown by the federal commission on industrial relations at its hearings.

"I do not believe that the Pennsylvania railroad had anything to do with the employment of Mr. Lee," said Mr. Welborn concluding the reading of the telegram. Mr. Welborn then read into the records the date lines and signatures of a mass of correspondence between himself and John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Starr J. Murphy, Jerome D. Greene, Frederick C. Gates and J. H. McLean and for the most part members of the directorate closest in touch with the Rockefeller interests. In addition there was correspondence submitted between W. L. Mackenzie King, chairman of the Canadian Association for International Conciliation, now the Rockefeller Foundation's commissioner for the investigation of industrial unrest.

The correspondence began about the middle of 1914 and concluded about a month ago and was replete with suggestions from the eastern directors as to the course of the conflict in Colorado, publicity, the probable modification of the true proposition by President Wilson, cashing of militiamen's certificates of indebtedness, statements on the strike situation, forecasts of the company's actions in the future of disputes.

Before Mr. Welborn took the stand, James H. Brewster of the law faculty of the University of Colorado concluded his testimony.

Summing up, Professor Brewster said he held Adjutant General John Chase responsible for what he termed abuses by the militia. Governor Ammons had been misinformed, he thought, was almost blind, and he should not perhaps be severely criticized.

"Chase believes where there is a riot there is a war," said Mr. Brewster. "He told me in our first interview that in war the civil law was suspended. There was no war in southern Colorado."

Mr. & Borden Harriman of New York took her seat as a member of the commission today, for the first time since the opening of the hearing.

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